

REPORT TO LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

Date of Hearing: 28th January 2026

Report of: Head of Environment and Waste

Type of Application: NEW APPLICATION of a licence relating to a Private Hire vehicle over 4 years old.

Legislation: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Town Police Clauses Act 1847

Applicant: [REDACTED]

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 An application has been received from the Applicant, a licensed taxi driver seeking permission for a new Private Hire vehicle licence for a vehicle which is over 4 years old at the date the application was submitted. The vehicle was 4 years old on 19th October 2025. This is a matter that cannot be dealt with under delegated powers.

2. Background:

- 2.1 The vehicle that is being presented for licensing as a Private Hire vehicle is a 4 passenger Mercedes E250 registration number [REDACTED], with a date of first registration of 19th October 2021. The vehicle is Euro 6 compliant. The application is attached at Appendix A. A copy of the vehicle registration document is attached as Appendix B.

3. Report Details:

- 3.1 The vehicle has a current MOT certificate dated 17th December 2025 and expires 5th January 2027. The mileage recorded at the MOT inspection was 34,427 miles confirmation received of work completed for outstanding advisory. The MOT certificate and history are attached as Appendix C. The MOT history shows that the vehicle has failed one time since first registration on 19th October 2021.. In addition to the MOT certificate there is an independent mechanical inspection report, which has been submitted, this is dated 16th of December 2025 and is attached as Appendix D. Evidence of vehicle insurance is attached as Appendix E. Photos for the vehicle are attached at Appendix F provided by a licensing officer during inspection.
- 3.2 The Licensing Sub-Committee must have regard to the Council's the Practices and Procedures for the control of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles, Drivers and Operators and the Code of Conduct for Licensed Drivers ('Taxi Policy')
- 3.3 Vehicles presented as a new application that are that are over the age of 4 years will be referred to the licensing sub-committee for determination.

4. What are the legal aspects?

- 4.1 Section 48(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 ('the Act') states that a district council may on receipt of an application from the proprietor of any vehicle for the grant in respect of such vehicle of a licence to use the vehicle as a private hire vehicle, grant in respect thereof a vehicle licence:

Provided that a district council shall not grant such a licence unless they are satisfied-

a) that the vehicle is-

- i) suitable in type, size and design for use as a private hire vehicle;
- ii) not of such design and appearance as to lead any person to believe that the vehicle is a hackney carriage;
- iii) in a suitable mechanical condition;
- iv) safe; and
- v) comfortable;

b) that there is in force in relation to the use of the vehicle a policy of insurance or such security as complies with the requirements of Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1988, and shall not refuse such a licence for the purpose of limiting the number of vehicles in respect of which such licence are granted by the council.

- 4.2 Any person aggrieved by a refusal of the Licensing Sub-Committee to grant a vehicle licence under Section 48 of the Act may appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of receiving written notice of the refusal.

5. Recommendations:

- 5.1 The Licensing Sub-Committee are asked to determine the application having regard to current policy.

Service Lead – Environment and waste

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Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:-
None

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